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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application No. 09/641,378	TC/A.U.: Petitions
Reissue of Patent No. 6,053,883	EXAMINER: N/A
Original Issue Date: April 25, 2000	ATTY DKT NO.: 122999.0001.003
Reissue Filing Date: August 18, 2000	
TITLE: SUPPORT AND UTILITY BELT	
<b>TO: Mail Stop Petition Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b>	
<b>Attn: Steven Brantley</b>	

**SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION FOR REISSUE  
APPLICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.175**

I, John Schiek, as Vice President of Schiek's Sports, Inc., a Wisconsin corporation, declare as follows:

1. This Declaration for Reissue is supplemental to the original Declaration for Reissue filed on August 18, 2000, and is incorporated by reference thereto.
2. I am authorized to act on behalf of the following assignee: Schiek's Sports, Inc. The entire title to U.S. Patent No. 6,053,883, the subject of this Declaration for Reissue, is vested in Schiek's Sports, Inc.
3. I believe the sole inventor, James W. Schiek, Sr., to be the original and first inventor of the subject matter which is described and claimed in said patent for which reissue is sought, the specification of which was filed on August 20, 2000 as reissue application No. 09/641,378 and was amended therein and further amended as set forth below.

4. The non-signing inventor, James W. Schiek, Sr. is a citizen of the United States of America.

5. The last known residential address of the non-signing inventor, James W. Schiek, Sr. is 1670 Weyerhorst Court, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

6. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.47, because the inventor James W. Schiek, Sr. has refused to sign any additional documentation related to U.S. Patent No. 6,053,883 as set forth in Paragraph 5 of the original Declaration for Reissue as identified above, I believe the reissue application is necessary to preserve the rights of the assignee, Schiek's Sports, Inc. and to prevent irreparable damage to Schiek's Sports, Inc. from third party infringers.

7. I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims as amended in the original Declaration for Reissue and as further amended herein.

8. I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR. 1.56.

9. I believe the original patent to be wholly or partially inoperative by reason of the patentee claiming less than he had the right to claim in the patent, as more particularly set forth in the original Declaration for Reissue.

Specifically, as more particularly set forth in the original Declaration for Reissue, the novelty of the invention lies in the uniquely contoured shape of the support belt that combines back support with increased abdominal support. Additional elements of the belt, such as a fastener, are not relied upon or necessary as part of the inventive concept. The claims as previously amended and the new claims set forth below are intended to better reflect the novelty of the invention.

Specifically, I have reviewed and approved further amendments to the claims, wherein underlining indicates added material, through the addition of the following new claims:

12. A support belt adapted for encircling and being secured to the waist of a wearer for providing both back and abdominal muscle support during strenuous activity while providing a non-interfering support and a non-interfering fit with the skeletal structure of the ribs and hips of the wearer, the belt comprising:

a. an elongate base having a longitudinal axis and opposite outer ends and of a length sufficient to encircle the waist of the wearer, the base including an enlarged back support area and an enlarged abdominal support area, each area having its own first fixed predetermined vertical height, the areas being disposed on the base such that the areas are opposite one another when the belt is encircling the waist of the wearer;

b. reduced side areas on the base, having a second predetermined vertical height smaller than said first predetermined vertical height of either support area and disposed intermediately of the back support and abdominal support areas and opposite one another between the hips and ribs of the wearer when the belt is encircling the waist, said reduced side areas being sized to allow the belt to be sufficiently tightened against the back and abdominal walls without encountering the skeletal structure of the ribs or hips of the wearer thereby evenly distributing and providing support to both the back and abdominal walls and accommodate bending and side-to-side motion of the wearer; and

c. a releasably securable fastener disposed on said base to permit said opposite outer ends to be secured adjacent one another when the belt is encircling the waist of the wearer.

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13. The belt of Claim 12, wherein said fastener is a hook and loop type fastener.

14. The belt of Claim 12, wherein said fastener comprises a cinchable strap and buckle.

15. The belt of Claim 12, wherein said enlarged abdominal support area comprises

a. an enlarged first abdominal support portion located on one outer end of the base; and

b. an enlarged second abdominal support portion located on the other outer end of the base.

I believe that this supplemental declaration in conjunction with the original declaration, complies with 37 C.F.R. 1.175 and supports each and every claim.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this declaration is directed.

Schiek's Sports, Inc.

Date: 1/27/04

John Schiek

By: John Schiek

Title: VP, CEO

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